

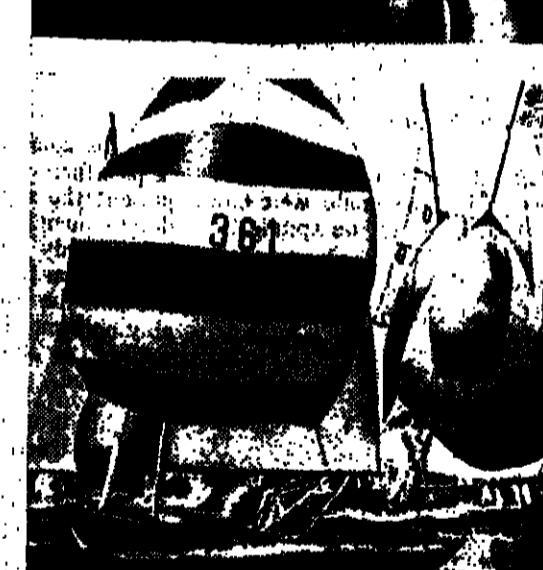
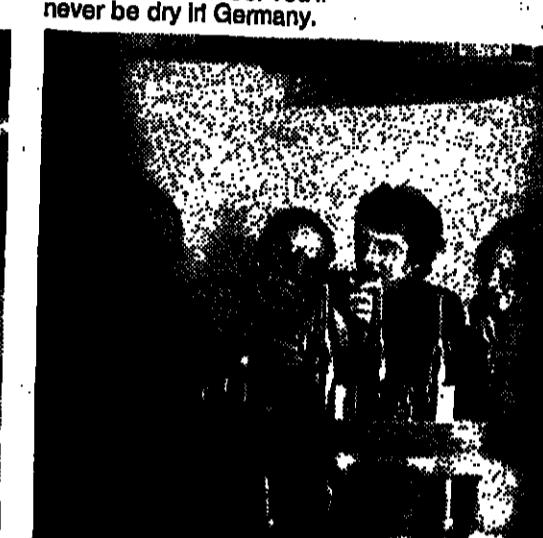
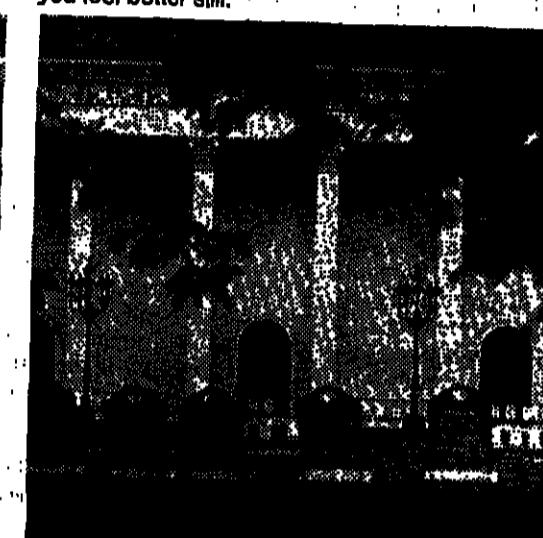


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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Burg, 23 September 1971
Year - No. 493 - By air

C 20725 C

Berlin Agreement opens up a new era in Europe

political situation in the whole of Eastern and Western Europe has been characterised by the dangerously explosive state of affairs in the heart of the Continent.

On the strength of this situation the two sides armed to the teeth after the War. Each sought to force the other at least on to the defensive yet at the same time each was afraid of the other.

This fundamental position exercised a decisive influence on security policy in both East and West, at the same time bringing influence to bear on the whole gamut of foreign, economic and financial policy.

It would, of course, be too easy now to believe that these facts of life in both East and West are going to change overnight, as it were.

Yet there are many indications that a process has now been set in motion that will, so to speak, uncouple the existing crisis-prone dovetailing and denture-gritting commitment of the European powers in and around Berlin and Germany.

Oddly enough this process has come in for criticism in both East and West. The Opposition in this country feels there to be a genuine danger that the United States will feel emboldened to pull out of Europe after the Berlin Agreement and be still further encouraged to do so following ratification of Bonn's treaties with Moscow and Warsaw.

The latest developments will be grist to the mill of the increasing American tendency to withdraw from international commitments, the Opposition reckons.

In the final analysis, the argument runs,

the current policy trend is heading in the direction of a reduction in German and European security.

This albeit should prove considerably easier once the Berlin and German questions have been reasonably settled.

Western scepticism as to likely developments is accompanied by a similar feeling of mistrust in East Berlin. In

Eastern Europe too the omnipotence of the foremost power is bound to slacken, though Moscow will not be slackening the reins of its own free will.

The Kremlin's satellites will now be less convinced by the argument that the alleged imperialist enemy in Bonn (and West Berlin) calls for the strictest socialist solidarity.

The uncoupling of the German Question will trigger off political mechanism in Eastern Europe too and the West can but hope that developments in the East do not one day reach explosive proportions.

Serious internal disruption in the socialist world could well lead to grave setbacks in the process of detente, as past experience has shown. The future is assuredly fraught with danger.

Over the next six months Germans in the Federal Republic will be required to demonstrate for the last time (as things stand) their national common sense and political sense of proportion.

There may well be something of a hangover, though. Young people may not worry much about accepting for good and all what has so far only emotionally been felt inevitable. But they have an easy time of it.

Even twenty-five-year-olds have known the Berlin Wall all their lives. They know from personal experience nothing other than the existence of two German states, Silesia as part of Poland, Königsberg as part of the Soviet Union, Budweis as somewhere in Czechoslovakia.

Stettin, Stolp and Stralsund are just names on the map for thirty-year-olds. Berlin is to remain divided, not to mention Germany, which includes neither

Continued on page 3



French ambassador in Bonn, Jean Sauvagnargues, American Minister David Klein and Sir Roger Jackling, British ambassador in Bonn, delivered the official German language version of the Berlin Agreement to West Berlin mayor, Klaus Schütz on 3 September. Mayor Schütz expressed his thanks to the ambassadors for their tireless efforts in negotiating the agreement. (Photo: AP)

extend and perfect the process of Western European integration.

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Continued on page 3

■ BERLIN AGREEMENT

The Berlin Agreement paves the way for further East-West accords detente efforts

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

In Berlin the three Western powers and the Soviet Union did not only agree on the future of the divided city; something more happened. They removed the bolt from a door which was previously shut, preventing further East-West negotiations.

The creation of a link between a satisfactory settlement of the Berlin problem and ratification of the treaties with Poland and Russia was a decision taken by the Bonn government alone, which, like any government is able to Reserve for itself the right to set its own priorities on the foreign policy agenda.

But it was a truly significant aspect of Bonn policies that more than a dozen other Western countries recognized that the new Ostpolitik was one of the Federal Republic's priorities in foreign policy, including the superpower America, so that in the past eighteen months the Kremlin has been facing a chorus of voices, making it quite clear that without a satisfactory solution of the Berlin problem there would be no other negotiations aimed at detente.

The West formally made a settlement on Berlin a priority for the calling of a European Security Conference; but the planned discussions for a balanced reduction of troop strength in Europe were also made dependent on a Berlin agreement.

This solidarity of the Western powers has undoubtedly, as the results of the negotiations among the four ambassadors in Berlin showed, paid off handsomely.

If the Berlin treaty is signed, sealed and delivered by the end of the year then there will be nothing standing in the way of a European Security Conference for which the Soviet Union has been striving for a long time. But preparations will, come what may, be complicated and

time-consuming however favourable other considerations are.

Since the first mention of the Security Conference at the Bucharest meeting of the Warsaw Pact countries in July 1966 Moscow has repeated the call with as much stubbornness as vagueness.

A renunciation of force and intensifying of bilateral trade, as far as possible skating round the EEC, as well as cultural exchanges are named by the East as possible topics of conversation at such a conference.

When the West stated that it was not particularly interested in the suggestion the Kremlin came back with the reply that other topics such as for instance a limitation of armaments could also be discussed.

Originally the Russians wanted to stick strictly to what was implied by the term European Security Conference, excluding all non-European States.

This all-too obvious attempt to rob the NATO countries of their powerful leader, the United States and their other transatlantic partner, Canada, was doomed to failure from the outset.

If the Security Conference is not to degenerate into vague and unbinding palaver but provide concrete results, diplomatic experts must get their heads together at one or more preparatory conferences to clear the way for the main talks.

Statesmen who have a good understanding of the way the Soviet mind ticks believe they have noticed recently signs that the Kremlin's interest in a Security Conference has begun to wane.

As the relationship with the East Bloc member Rumania has grown worse of late it is possible that the Kremlin fears that a conference of this scope would give contumacious Ceausescu too much room for manoeuvre in which to underline his independence, not to mention the other troublesome member of the fraternity, Yugoslavia. If one of the East Bloc satellites were to prove refractory at a

major international conference it would be highly embarrassing for the Russians.

Thus the plans for a European Security Conference remain a vague hope for the future despite the success scored in Berlin.

But we can expect definite steps to be made in the direction of troop withdrawal negotiations. Nato has already worked out a timetable for this at the June meeting in Lisbon. It is possible that before September is out a conference will be held in Brussels at which foreign ministers or State secretaries will get together in order to work out a common attitude of Nato members in discussions with the East Bloc.

This negotiating position will then be put forward to the foreign ministers at the December Nato meeting for their definitive approval.

The next step after the decisions taken in Lisbon is the nomination of one or

SED leaders have no cause to complain

Detail is the very devil, the saying goes, and hackneyed phrases are not always wrong. The negotiators of the two German states will definitely have some difficulty in filling in the blanks of the Four-Power agreement on Berlin.

On the other hand it will not be quite as difficult as official circumspection and the impious hopes of opponents of the Berlin Agreement may make it out to be.

The Socialist Unity Party (SED) of the GDR is continuously stressing how satisfied it is with the outcome of the negotiations jointly worked out by Moscow and East Berlin.

SED leader Erich Honecker and his associates may not be entirely happy but they can hardly criticise the work of their Soviet allies with particular obduracy.

And as the ambassadors have settled a

more junior negotiators for the second talks with the Warsaw Pact States. It is possible that the former Secretary-General Manlio Brosio, who has left his post this summer, will be given the task. He or whoever is given the job first have to work out in concert with the West Bloc a suitable programme for negotiations.

Not until then could the disarmament talks begin. And the whole would still be long and difficult. The West is striving for "balanced" reduction, which would take into account the different geographical location of the countries with America separated from Europe by an ocean. The whole process could spread out over several years.

The impenetrable veil of secrecy has been drawn over the Salt talks, but only speculation about how they are affected by the Berlin settlement.

But Berlin has provided a basis which an answer can be found to the question affecting not only the Salt talks but also the whole future development of East-West relations. Would the SED in its educational exhibition,

it is called *Zelchmen heute* (drawing today) and was compiled by Alfred Hrdlicka, one of the best Neo-Mannerist artists and sculptors in Austria, for the Vienna Festival.

It was the only unpretentious contribution relevant to the present day at a pretentious social gathering and is now on show in West Germany. It will be at

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 September)

ROUND THE GALLERIES

Frankfurt graphic art exhibition stresses reality and spontaneity

intelligence service, painter Max Raffler, the Austrian patent office, the stage designer Sanjost, and the Vienna Planetsarium.

It is not necessary to protract this list any further. The point has been made that this exhibition has shown that drawing now as ever has an important function in many aspects of everyday life as a direct form of communication, notation and planning.

At this level of communication there is consequently no difference with regard to effect between an artist and a non-artist.

It could even be said that at this level the artist is grateful to accept any inspiration that is offered by the layman.

Thus the artists responsible for this exhibition failed to achieve any aesthetic appraisal. Simply and solely the functional character of graphic art was what was decisive for them.

This is tantamount to saying that the artist who amiably stoops to realism may be forgiven if he misses the target! He is after all an artist and it is his duty to steer clear of reality.

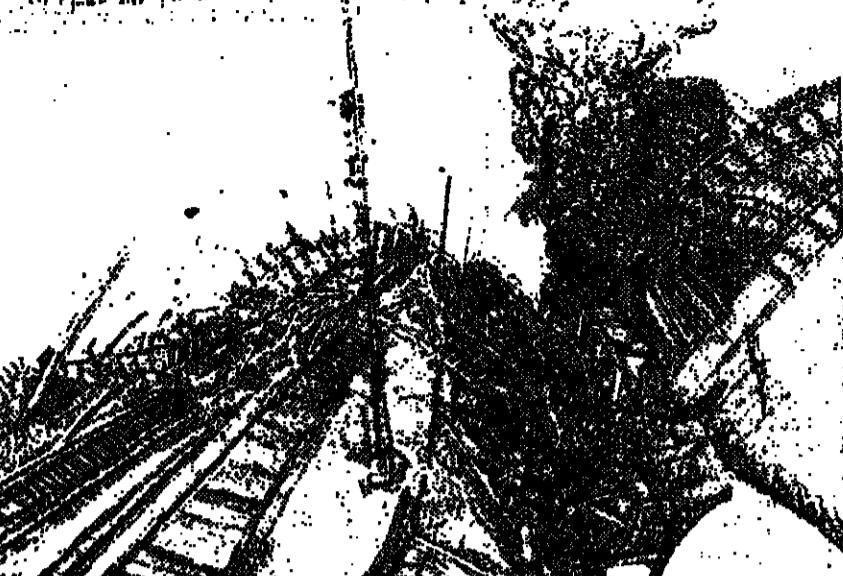
According to Dr Koschatzky he need not fear that his work will be subjected to rational analysis.

The artistic drawing as a portrait of an artist's soul takes a back seat at this exhibition, trembling somewhat in the face of the hard precise lines with which engineers map out technical products, the first rudiments of a power station, a complex of buildings, aeroplanes and ships.

This is highly rated in the words of Ruskin and Kandinsky and in the battery of key-phrases by the art historian Dr Walter Koschatzky in the catalogue to this exhibition.

His contribution emphasises the continuing distancing form reality, something which artists are not keen to have emphasised during an exhibition of this nature, needless to say.

Koschatzky wrote the fatal sentence: "If the artist's hand is spontaneous in the



(Photo: Katalog)

on walls between Simmering and Brigittenau, Zedlitzhalle and Reichsbrücke. The artist envies those who without scruples can express themselves openly on walls, their curses, protests, love affairs, unclean thoughts — engravings that announce their existence and gain them a small slice of immortality.

In this exhibition there is only one man who permanently succeeds in bringing to his drawings the inartistic spontaneous gesture and manages to draw the same amount of attention to them as a number of convicts to their pictures in a reconstructed cell, the schizophrenic patient Karl at an Austrian clinic or Cardinal König in his rough sketch for the design of an Easter candle. This is Amulf Rainer. He wades into art destructively or correctively and thus brings it nearer to reality.

In the catalogue it states: "In the processes of industrial manufacturing, faster and faster travel and the modern economy, graphic art has an intrinsic role to play and is indispensable. It is such an important part of modern living that a worldwide drawing strike would be tantamount to a general strike. It would be a catastrophe."

Ernst Günter Engellhardt
(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 September 1971)

Frank Stella's minimal art show

tours West Germany

For his sketches at least Frank (Philip) Stella uses exclusively standardised, two-dimensional elements of linear structure. Stella, who was born in 1936 in Massachusetts and has been in New York since 1958, takes a pair, or more often than not two or three pairs, and arranges them in random, interchangeable wholes. Or he places them in symmetrical relationship to one another.

According to Friedrich W. Heckmann's notes in the programme to the current Frank Stella exhibition in this country, in both cases every arrangement of elements becomes "identical with appearance of the whole, so that the transmutation of this into a consequent pictorial concept not only achieves a completely new solution of the combination, but also makes the group reference of the individual pictorial form visible to the preceding and following concept."

In this way the pictures become manifestations of what is syntactically possible. They signify nothing more than this. They do not point the way to anything other than this. They are not related to anything definite, nor to anything real — they simply maintain their own reality.

Thus they could scarcely be less compelling. The discretion of these pictures makes it inevitable that any reaction to them is a one-sided reaction. It does not interest Stella.

What the observer does with these

pictures that are put at his disposal, what he makes of them, is his own affair. Everything that he thinks and feels is assimilated. But there is no challenge to think or feel anything. Questions are permitted. But answers should not be expected.

The richness of these pictures is in their poverty. Their value as a challenge is in their surrender. Their finite bounds consist of their rational infinity. In fact no style was ever so finite as Minimal Art. (Stella's works are included in this group.) Their predecessor, Josef Albers, still included psychological and physiological phenomena of perception in his constellations and structures).

Just where Minimal Art is leading to is demonstrated rather decisively by the Hamburg exhibition. Demonstrative in one way is the manner in which the conditions of the exhibition are made to fit what is exhibited.

Now, for example, the 47 works deny the world around them, deny the existence of the galleries in which they hang.

The architectonic way in which they are placed together, their serial principle, is neither here nor there. Stella never puts his graphic art together in any other way. His works are always series (although in differing combinations) of similarly shaped elements. These pictures and galleries want to be left alone. So let's leave them alone.

Jürgen Schmidt
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 September 1971)

Can Berlin survive?

Continued from page 5

forced the Western powers to be involved with the city.

If a government has emerged in Bonn that has no use for pan-German involvement, at least in the sense that has been accepted to date, and therefore has no conventional interest in Berlin as to date, then the basis for the West's interest in the divided city is swept away.

Berlin has been a burden to the Western powers for long time. They bore this burden mainly because of their worries about political stability in West Germany.

When a Bonn government took over that promised them a certain degree of stability even if they lightened the Berlin burden, or to put it even more on the line, when the possibility of a serious conflict with this Bonn government arose if the Western powers did not throw some ballast overboard there was a lot in favour of the West taking advantage of the offer.

This moment is marked in America with an air of general tiredness with the rest of the world, a wave of neo-isolationism among our major allies who are attempting to ditch as many of their foreign responsibilities as possible.

It is difficult for a world power to cut back its defence spending while that of the other major world power is increasing

and that power is defending its outposts stubbornly.

If it is true that Senator Mike Mansfield was bound to win the day sooner or later with his demands that there should be a reduction of American troop strength in Europe the question then arises, where does the second line of defence in Europe lie?

And if the American economic situation is so critical that the American President must announce an economic policy of protectionist measures then there is a marked likelihood that other political burdens will be offloaded on to other shoulders.

President Nixon has understood the basic tendencies in the United States for some time and has tried to predict the political consequences. He presumably hoped at the outset that he could limit his problems to Asia.

But he must have thought of the side-effects in Europe. When he gave the impetus for the Berlin negotiations in February 1969 with his speech at the Siemens factory he could scarcely have hoped that the Soviet Union would confirm the Western interpretation of the role of Berlin.

There has always been a difference of opinion among Americans about the extent to which conditions in Germany might change. There is no lack of hints that Richard Nixon and his advisers have

begun to find Willy Brandt's policies, including his attitude to Berlin, suspect.

But as the crisis in America became more acute there must also have been a growing tendency to make the best of a bad job.

For many people in Washington who are in favour of partial disengagement from Europe or consider this unavoidable a Bonn government that backs up these ideas must seem like a godsend.

It is understandable that the United States does not want too much emphasis laid on this aspect of the Berlin package, even at the price of strengthening opponents in Germany and crippling friends. If the process of disengagement is to be carried out with as little risk as possible it is essential that it be carried out as unobtrusively as possible.

It is a sign of the refinements of Russian politics in the postwar years that they are prepared to accept these Western methods.

But whether the German and the American interest in glossing over the matter tally, that is the question — a question that is naturally directed at the Opposition in Bonn.

Where is the limit of withdrawals to be drawn if a spade is not going to be called a spade? We have already seen that the Soviet Union has made a more powerful call for its cherished European Security Conference hardly before the ink on the Berlin settlement is dry. And we can see

how America is preparing for this conference with an air of resignation.

Is the end of this security conference to be greeted likewise with a clink of glasses and happy optimism even though no one in Washington has the slightest doubt that its aim will be to obtain political sanctioning of the division of Germany and the shifting of the political balance in Europe in favour of the SED Union?

If anyone can see any other end than capitulation in easy instalments then he should speak now or forever hold his peace. And as it is mainly German interests that are affected it is essential that Germans be the ones to speak up.

As Berlin has shown us there are moods that cannot be turned and moods that have been done cannot be undone. But much of the damage can still be repaired within finite bounds if German politicians make Americans constantly aware of common interests.

Above all the search for a substitute to diminishing American power will be most successful if for the United States they are prepared to accept these Western methods.

If they do not want to simply surren-

der Western Europeans will develop the same really heterogeneous bunch, are Austrian Railways, the Federal Gymnastics Institute, the mime artist Marcel Marceau, the Institute for Medical Hypnosis, the film director Federico Fellini, a lieutenant colonel in the

Office of the Central Statistics Office, strategic notes from the Ministry of Defence, sketches at the scene of the crime contributed by the Institute for Forensic Medicine, reconstructions of accidents, euphemistically touched-up election posters, a Viennese football team manager's soccer choreographies, meteorological drawings, architectural designs, counterfeited banknotes, balance sheets and quick sketches with which many artists paid their bill at the Vienna

exhibition.

Among the contributors to this exhibition are a really heterogeneous bunch, the Austrian Railways, the Federal Gymnastics Institute, the mime artist Marcel Marceau, the Institute for Medical Hypnosis, the film director Federico Fellini, a lieutenant colonel in the

Where do the physically handicapped live? As far away as possible, segregated from the non-handicapped. That's much more convenient," a 24-year-old girl, herself a cripple, wrote in a letter to this paper.

She has succeeded in life. She passed her school-leaving examinations and her driving-test. She is now in her second year at Marburg University studying German and history.

But she has gone through everything that the results of a survey only suggest. About ninety per cent of the population do not know how to behave towards a person who is physically handicapped.

Sixty-three per cent believe that physically handicapped children are better off in a home. More than half the people interviewed would not like to live under the same roof as a person who was physically handicapped.

One person interviewed said, "We don't want to bring Hitler into it but he made a clear sweep of these homes and gave everyone a merciful injection..." This perverted idea of euthanasia is taken one step further where the mentally handicapped are concerned: "They have even less from life."

These statistics and statements were obtained during a representative survey conducted by *infatex* at the instigation

of a Cologne research group dealing with physically handicapped children.

A normal person is shaken from his mental balance on seeing a handicapped person. Lie detector experiments show that epidermal resistance increases, indicating a feeling of revulsion.

This reaction can also be observed in people who have almost daily contact with the physically handicapped such as teachers and doctors at schools for the physically handicapped and those researchers working on the Cologne project.

Since the survey the researchers have advanced a considerable way towards finding possibilities of communication between the handicapped and the non-handicapped.

The findings of the survey are confirmed by those reactions of the vegetative nervous system that can be accurately measured. As this aversion obviously cannot be controlled by willpower general appeals are of no use.

Please for sympathy and the call to be friendly to handicapped fellow-humans will prove fruitless. The thalidomide tragedy, the long trial at Alesdorf and television broadcasts on behalf of *Aktion Sorgenkind* have brought publicity and money for artificial limbs, homes and workshops but they have aroused little interest in the human problems of the handicapped.

"We are the best television models so we must also be the best for the *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*," a boy told us at the second Thalidomide Congress in Cologne's Sporthalle. This twelve-year-old's statement sounded self-confident but cynical too.

A really pretty girl sighed, "It's always the same story. I've either got to laugh or look sad. I no longer want any part of it all."

Weeks later the two children found that the non-handicapped preferred to avoid them. West German tourists on the Italian Adriatic objected to them being in the same hotel.

The wish to be spared seeing a handicapped person is thought by the Cologne researchers to be a sign not of animosity but of insecurity.

The head of the research group, psychologist Gerd Hansen, states, "One is completely helpless when confronted by a helpless person."

■ HEALTH

Thalidomide children learn to live with their handicap

Every year some 100,000 handicapped children are born in the Federal Republic. Public interest is focused on the effects of thalidomide and the children born to mothers who had used this medicament. How are these children managing with their deformity? Has their terrible fate helped to improve relations between the handicapped and the non-handicapped? A Cologne research group has investigated how these children overcome their disabilities to live relatively happy lives.

At present there is only one chance of understanding between the handicapped and the non-handicapped — the handicapped person must seize the initiative and make it clear to his non-handicapped colleague what he expects of him. Jansen states, "The handicapped person must not be an object of pity."

What a handicapped person needs to draw his fellow-humans from their reserve can only be outlined here. Flair, intuition, and understanding of people, perseverance and a high degree of self-confidence above all are required.

An important factor is conquering one's own disability. The difficulties arising from this and the way to get over them have only really been seen since thalidomide children have been observed. A large number of children of about the same age and with essentially the same disabilities are nearly all taken care of together.

The first problem for the thalidomide children was the question of what they could and could not do. "At first they thought most of all what they could not do," psychologist Franz O. Eßer of the Cologne research team reports.

"This problem was soon surmounted," he adds, "by showing the children what they could do. Today the children are able to make a realistic assessment of their capabilities."

One example from the thalidomide class in Cologne will suffice to illustrate this point. During one lesson a little boy expressed his wish to become a vet.

His teacher and fellow-pupils then discussed the physical exertions that this profession demands. The ten-year-old, affected in all four limbs, said at the end of the debate, "I realise that I will not be able to make it. Instead I shall be a vet for small animals."

Drawings can illustrate this development even better. Two years ago, after two years of intensive care, the children were asked for the first time to draw themselves.

A girl who was completely armless pictured herself at the age of six with arms spread wide. Two years later she drew herself as she really was — armless and with her hands growing from her shoulders. Her laughing face has not changed.

At the age of seven a boy with shortened arms drew his self-portrait with overlarge arms and a large number of fingers. When he was nine he drew himself with normally developed arms and legs. He also drew a speech bubble in which he wrote, "This is not me, this is how I want to be."

Two other examples show how plainly and unemotionally the children see their disability and that of their classmates. One boy on handing his drawing to the teacher said, "I won't need to write my name on this, I'm the only person in the class with three fingers on each hand."

A girl with legs of different length (not that this was very noticeable) emphasised the deformity in her drawing by exaggerating the difference. A classmate corrected her work. She had made the wrong leg too long.

Referring to the pictures, psychologist Eßer stated, "First of all the children see themselves as they would like to be. When they drew themselves, they also

children is the most difficult to understand — their position within the family, family with a handicapped child, handicapped family." It was once a conference years ago. This statement lost none of its weight.

There is the shock for the mother at birth, her feelings of guilt can lead into a death-wish, the child has to spend long time in hospital, undergo a series of operations and be nursed for his infancy.

The mother of the handicapped must nearly always come to terms with these facts on her own and in realisation that overcoming a disability is not a process that will one day be completed. New problems constantly draw in their missing limbs, exaggerating their size for the very reason that they are missing."

The second problem facing the children was their position in society. All of them have seen how people turn away from them in tams, observe them curiously or awkwardly express their sympathy.

A twelve-year-old had to endure the insolence of adults. An elderly couple blocked his way at a bus stop. The man bluntly asked him why his mother had taken thalidomide. When the boy remained silent, the wife took her husband aside and said, "Leave him alone, he'll soon be receiving compensation from the manufacturers."

Discussions following an incident of this type are usually generalised and included in the larger framework of the social position of all minorities.

Eight-to-ten-year-old could not usually be expected to be interested in this type of problem. Franz Eßer states, "Their own experiences and the chance to discuss them have helped them to gain early understanding of the subject."

The children have made a number of suggestions to help improve their situation — even for the time they spend at school.

The third problem facing handicapped

Marianne Quäck
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 28 August)

of the head a patient was cured with the help of a nerve transplant.

It still remains questionable however whether similar successes will result from the use of nerves conserved from patients who have recently died.

Blood vessel surgery is no more difficult than neurosurgery today. Replacing constricted arteries in the heart and brain as well as the periphery of the body with artificial blood vessels or less important ones taken from another part of the patient's body is not more than a matter of routine under present-day conditions.

Professor Widmer, the head of the angiological ward in Basle University Hospital, and other Swiss doctors told the congress participants how circulatory difficulties in the brain could be treated with similar surgical measures.

The most recent tour de force in brain surgery is the work of these specialists. With a number of circulatory disorders of the brain they reroute the temporal artery from its normal course near the surface by the temples into the depths of the brain to bring more blood to those areas of the brain threatened by a lack of oxygen.

Professor Hirschmann of Tübingen and other prominent doctors stated that circulatory disorders of the brain could be the cause of sudden blackouts or strokes that are not always easy to distinguish from epileptic fits.

This type of stroke is nearly always linked with a sudden drop in blood pressure and can be set off by circulatory disorders, irregularities on the periphery of the heart as well as by mental factors and physical strain.

The classic example is the strong,

MEDICINE

Micro-surgery and nerve transplantation dominate Karlsruhe neurology congress

operational microscopes with ten to twenty-fold magnification today permit surgeons to carry out operations in nerve centres that would have been thought impossible a few years ago.

Doctors at the 23rd Therapy Week in Karlsruhe reported that the finest individual nerve fibres only a fraction of a millimetre thick could now be separated surgically reactivated.

A relatively safe operation on the spinal cord or the trigeminal nerve can block some almost intolerable states of pain far more effectively than brain surgery. Even the smallest tumours in the central nervous system can be removed with the help of operational microscopes with such a degree of accuracy that there is little danger of renewed tumour growth.

The ability of the mother to withdraw the physical and mental strain is reflected in the behaviour of the child, said Lohmar, head of the Cologne School of Handicapped Children. For almost ten years says, "The child's attitude depends on the way its parents got out of disability."

It is difficult to judge what role the father plays in a family with a handicapped child. One of the researchers admitted that they knew nothing about the subject. He was however mistress of forceful actions of some fathers' parent associations.

None of the researchers doubt that group therapy would help parents. One of them admitted that psychologists would probably be too amateurish to embark on such a project. "It would be too explosive," he said.

Surgeons are subjected to a strict regime of self-discipline when carrying out these micro-technical operations, it was reported at the Karlsruhe congress. Even the slightest twitch of a hand could compromise the success of an operation. Coffee, alcohol and even strenuous manual work is absolutely taboo.

But the successes are astonishing. Eighteen years after an injury causing a complete lack of feeling over large areas

of the head a patient was cured with the help of a nerve transplant.

It still remains questionable however whether similar successes will result from the use of nerves conserved from patients who have recently died.

Blood vessel surgery is no more difficult than neurosurgery today. Replacing constricted arteries in the heart and brain as well as the periphery of the body with artificial blood vessels or less important ones taken from another part of the patient's body is not more than a matter of routine under present-day conditions.

Professor Widmer, the head of the angiological ward in Basle University Hospital, and other Swiss doctors told the congress participants how circulatory difficulties in the brain could be treated with similar surgical measures.

The most recent tour de force in brain surgery is the work of these specialists. With a number of circulatory disorders of the brain they reroute the temporal artery from its normal course near the surface by the temples into the depths of the brain to bring more blood to those areas of the brain threatened by a lack of oxygen.

Professor Hirschmann of Tübingen and other prominent doctors stated that circulatory disorders of the brain could be the cause of sudden blackouts or strokes that are not always easy to distinguish from epileptic fits.

This type of stroke is nearly always linked with a sudden drop in blood pressure and can be set off by circulatory disorders, irregularities on the periphery of the heart as well as by mental factors and physical strain.

The classic example is the strong,

Doctors have scant success in treating compulsive drinkers

If alcoholism is classified as a sickness then medicine registers its lowest success rate in this sphere. Seventy-seven per cent of the alcoholics who undergo medical treatment later return to their old ways. It was stated at the Therapy Week in Karlsruhe that 1.4 million registered alcoholics live in the Federal Republic.

Dr Lecher of the Psychosomatic Clinic at Kinzigtal said in Karlsruhe that the low success rate in the treatment of alcoholics was due less to the help offered them than to the methods employed.

On the one hand doctors learn little about alcoholism during their university studies and sometimes their interest in treating alcoholics is minimal.

On the other hand the alcoholic often has no contact with the doctor and is not prepared to agree to unconditional surrender in the consulting room.

Alcoholics Anonymous, an organisation set up here on the American model, states that there are 1.4 million known alcoholics in the Federal Republic. Fifty per cent of them are women.

But when the secret 'drinkers' are included Dr Lecher estimates the total number of alcoholics to be somewhere between three and five million.

Many of these are diagnosed by doctors or in hospital as cases of physical and mental exhaustion, coronary or circulatory neurosis or stomach and intestinal catarrh. Alcoholics are always intent on covering up their addiction as long as possible.

Although the Federal Social Court in Kassel ruled in 1968 that alcoholism was a disease and that sickness insurance firms had to cover the costs of treatment, opinion in medical circles still varies.

To illustrate this, Dr Lecher quoted from an article written by a doctor for the news sheet published by the Association of Private Sickness Insurance Schemes.

The writer denies that alcoholism is a disease, adding, "When a person deliberately drinks — he'll always find a reason for it in retrospect — he is not sick but unstable... I think it absurd to reward alcoholism by paying the costs of the treatment and allowing the drinker pocket-money for the time he spends in hospital."

At the opening of the Medicaments Fair the president of the Therapy Congress, Professor Hans-Erhard Bock of Tübingen, confirmed that consumption and not action was people's chief attitude where health was concerned today.

The situation was paradoxical, he said. Despite improved hygiene at home and at a person's place of work, despite more effective pharmaceutical products and their unlimited supply, despite good nourishment and an increase in leisure time the number of people applying for and receiving pensions before the official retiring age for reasons of disability or sickness was rising; more and more periods of convalescence were demanded and trifling complaints were built up into chronic cases.

In this light, the pharmaceutical industry is to a certain extent right when it claims that it is not its desire for profits that creates the demand, which it then satisfies but the patient himself, his environment and society in its present state that continue to make at least a section of this demand increase.

The whiz-kids of modern advertising who are also active in this branch are not over-eager to counter this development and stop pharmaceutical firms from becoming an insurance against the results of overluxurious living. They cannot be blamed for this but the fact must be admitted more frankly than is normally the case.

These problems cannot be approached very well without taking account of their link with the illogical and contradictory ideas of society about the doctor's relation to his patients, about sickness, the environment and drugs. More than one whipping-boy has to be sought. The Therapy Congress at Karlsruhe should have given ample evidence of that.

Walther Schallies
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 31 August 1971)

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MEDICINE

Micro-surgery and nerve transplantation dominate Karlsruhe neurology congress

muscular slaughterman who fainted when he once cut himself by accident and saw his own blood.

But other incidents too can lead to a sudden loss of consciousness. Doctors at Karlsruhe reported that it was often sufficient to apply slight pressure to the carotid sinus nerve centre in the neck to cause a sudden drop in blood pressure and a fainting fit.

This nerve centre is found at the exact point where the carotid artery divides into two branches. In many people a turn of the head which is almost unavoidable when reversing a car, for instance, is enough to cause a loss of consciousness. Other causes similar to this are bending the neck while shaving, wearing a shirt with too tight a collar or an embrace which is only meant to be tender.

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Blood vessel surgery is no more difficult than neurosurgery today. Replacing constricted arteries in the heart and brain

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Cologne agency provides cash and know-how for industry in Third World

No other West German holding company has such a wide range of activities as the Cologne-based Society for Economic Cooperation and Development, DEG for short.

Its activities include producing natural fertilisers in the Ivory Coast, synthetic materials in the Cameroons, sugar in Kenya, cotton products in Somalia, cables in Argentina, machine tools and plastics manufacturing equipment in Brazil, tiles in Thailand, meters for measuring alternating current in South Korea and underwear in Israel.

In Argentina the company organises plantations of medicinal herbs for the pharmaceutical industry and it helps to bring foreign exchange to Kenya with tourist hotels.

This is only a sample from the list of work carried out by DEG in 1970. Last year, in fact, this country's investments in developing nations dropped from 1,194 million Marks to 828 million but DEG's aid pledges the highest level since the company was formed in 1962.

In 24 new aid undertakings contributions towards the financing of development programmes worth a total of 48 million Marks were contractually concluded.

This aid takes the form of six completely new projects and eighteen investments for the expansion of projects already under way in thirteen countries.

What is decisive is the snowball effect of this aid. The investments that the DEG will be helping to finance are worth in all 235 million Marks, a ratio of 4.9:1. In other words, the original investment by this country has increased almost fivefold in value.

The Cologne consultants are not striving to achieve a position of power but simply wish to create an initiative for getting these development projects under way.

In the figure for total investments in the projects in which DEG had assisted financing up to the end of 1970 the proportion of DEG funds was 1:5.6.

The ability of developing countries to finance their own projects has declined steeply in the past few years. More important than public development aid from industrialised nations for the nations of the Third World is the development of their own productivity, so that in international trading they are not forced to rely largely or solely on the export of raw materials which are subject to great price fluctuations.

On the basis of the figures for 1969 it has been calculated that a ten-per-cent increase in exports from underdeveloped countries would bring them more foreign exchange than a fifty-per-cent increase in national development aid programmes by the industrial nations.

Interest is not centred entirely on productivity to bring in more foreign exchange via exports, such as Third World countries manufacturing from their own raw materials, but also on the production of goods that have had to be imported up till now, so that foreign exchange might be saved.

Most of DEG's promises of aid at the end of 1970, eighty-five out of a total of 104, concentrated on the production side, with heavy machinery and vehicle building in the forefront, followed by the leather, textiles and clothing industries and electronics and mechanics.

In ten cases DEG has agreed to assist banks expressly for the purpose of development work and finance houses for the same purpose. Seven offers of aid are concerned with expanding tourism.

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

days. Half of these (one third of the total) are profit-making and are paying out dividends of between three and twelve per cent.

As always the companies are glad to be making a profit and paying a dividend, but in the case of these development companies it can mean the parting of the ways. When the companies have proved that they are viable without the participation of DEG the DEG pulls out. Any money they make from the ventures can then be ploughed back into other development aid schemes. This year will see the start of this turn-round.

With this realistic basic concept DEG is never going to pay out handsome dividends to its sole shareholder, the Federal Republic. On the contrary, as the scope of DEG's work increases its basic capital has to be boosted by the State.

Last year the balance sheet total was up from 143 million to 240 million Marks and the product of profit-making companies is ploughed back fully in the form of depreciation and value adjustments applied to depreciation either by deduction from the value of asset or by entry on the liabilities side of the balance sheet. This time in addition there was a further five million Marks from the issue premium.

The company is forced to take precautions against the risks involved since its interests are in no way insured against either political or economic risks. The economic events of the past few weeks have shown just how important it is for the interests of a national economy to be spread out as far as possible over the world, with plenty of pillars for support.

Deutsche Zeitung, 3 September 1971

Director of Bonn's development aid workers refutes charges of political involvement

Frankfurter Rundschau: In the light of the Camillo Affair how would you define the basic duties of a development aid volunteer?

Von Weizsäcker: We insist that our workers are "voluntary helpers". They put their services at our disposal for a limited time so that by means of their physical powers, learning, working talents and competence they can train people in another country. It is to a relatively high degree a service run by experts.

Frankfurter Rundschau: A humanitarian service?

Von Weizsäcker: The expression "humanitarian" is widely used, but it certainly describes what I meant.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What is your opinion of the definition of the Minister for Economic Cooperation, Erhard Eppler, of the development aid volunteer as "a peaceful revolutionary, who by practical means and non-violence achieves political and social progress; he shares the sadness and the shame of those who are deprived of human rights, but not their hatred"?

Von Weizsäcker: My description would not have applied the term "revolutionary". This is not how I see it. Without the reference to "revolutionary" the definition used by Minister Eppler is very good. I cannot share the view that Eppler has made the development aid programme a political affair. I often work with young people and I have noted that they often have a strong desire to change the world, which is to a certain extent a revolutionary urge. If young people are to be taken on as volunteers they must be given

Entwicklungsdiest — lay down rules to volunteers on the political attitudes they may or may not adopt?

Von Weizsäcker: I personally would not want to tell a volunteer what political views he may hold. I simply want to make it clear to volunteers that if they adopt certain political attitudes they will not be good development aid workers. The only regulation I would make would be that the volunteers should pay attention to the sensibilities of the host country, and use discretion at all times. Naturally while we are deeply concerned about the people and the social situation in the countries where we give aid we insist that it is not the duty of a development aid worker to expose the politics of the Federal Republic. He is not a government emissary and I am opposed to this idea of his being a missionary coming to the fore. He is not a Federal government ambassador, but simply a person whose wish to help others can be realised by the financing of the DED on behalf of the Bonn government.

Frankfurter Rundschau: So you believe that a development aid volunteer should not support the politics of liberal fronts or revolutionary organisations even if he has realised that more human rights can only be won for the inhabitants of the country where he is working by violent means?

Von Weizsäcker: I believe that there are many situations in which a volunteer can help the individuals in a country without becoming involved in the question

Continued from page 10
changing the political setup there. If people come to a different conclusion I consider it most likely that they have come off the rails. One should never underestimate what one is capable of achieving.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What way out would you suggest for development aid workers caught in a crisis of conscience?

Von Weizsäcker: As a member of the DED a volunteer cannot take part in violent activities. He must either quit the DED and remain in the country privately or he must remain with the DED and quit the country.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What do you say to the Opposition's charge that the DED has been infiltrated by leftists?

Von Weizsäcker: I deny it emphatically. I have read a number of statements to this effect, but all of them have been quite imprecise. But I am ready to talk to such critics at any time. However, they must show their evidence at the ready so that we can check it out. It is not sufficient to level verbal criticism. How can you deny a charge that has not been set down in writing?

Hans Larchbacher

(*Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 September 1971*)

Continued on page 11

Leipzig Fair is an opportunity for East Berlin to show willing

This was pointed out on publication of the DEG business report by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Franz Heinrich Ulrich, who said that the worries that were being expressed about the economy and exports were justified.

Unfortunately although 1970 brought the highest ever figure for West German investments abroad, 3,500 million Marks as compared with 3,300 million in the previous year our investments in developing countries dropped.

The firms that the DEG wants to be contributors to development aid are showing reluctance. They tend to be over-afraid of the risks and in particular feel that they lack the personnel with right skills.

They are also partly motivated by a lack of liquid cash. About thirty per cent of DEG investments abroad come from major firms therefore and not from medium-sized firms that DEG would really like to interest.

At the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (responsible for development aid) officials are wondering if legislation to promote development could be made more effective. On

possibility is a graded promotion scheme — these have all been virtually a chink in the EEC armour. Quotas have been abolished, there have been a number of adjustment payments and there has been a constant liberalisation of trade with the GDR.

One way of making such business more attractive would be to increase preferences making the developing countries that have so far been largely neglected more favoured.

At the same time preferences in countries that have already benefited greatly from development aid would be reduced.

DEG has realised the necessity for regional emphasis in development aid programmes and in 1970 it began investigations into investment potential in those developing countries that had been neglected. It is drawing up reports in place before potential investors in these countries.

Günther Schack

(*Deutsche Zeitung, 3 September 1971*)

partner is able to export more than in the past. Added to this the country's ability to pay for imports, which was still described as weak in 1970, is now much stronger.

East Berlin could help towards a normalisation of trade by throwing some light on the shady steel deals. It is difficult to believe that the authorities in the GDR know nothing about how firms have channelled steel en masse from other East Bloc countries into the inter-German trade network, taking advantage of the special preferences that cover inter-German trade and at the same time cushioning themselves.

Despite the balance of trade at present, which has hit this country's sales, the mountain of debts is still high and precludes any possibility of the actual trade levels between the two Germanies being completely evenly balanced.

The GDR lacks the flexibility to really get to grips with Western markets and in addition the country has to suffer the incompetence of its planners, a harsh winter and a shortage of supplies.

Moreover the Soviet Union as the head of the Comecon bloc has set the signals clearly to mark the way ahead — the communist world has unreserved trade precedence! This leaves little room for manoeuvre for the free world. In future, too, the package of trade

preferences should have a stimulating effect. For grain alone the GDR gets about twice as much from sales to West Germany as it would at world market prices. Thus agricultural exports are an attractive proposition, and the short distance to be covered keeps transport costs down to a minimum. This applies particularly to West Berlin, and following the Four-Power agreement the divided city could become the hub of trade between the two Germanys the between the communist and free world.

What are the chances of increasing trade between the two Germanys in the next few years? Since there is scarcely any question of raising extra credit, firms in the Federal Republic that export to East Germany must be prepared to accept that their growth rate in this direction at least will slacken off.

This means growth rates of perhaps ten to fifteen per cent instead of the twenty to thirty per cent they have become accustomed to.

As for the GDR, its firms must broaden their outlook with more modern products, better service and more aggressive marketing.

As the climate of the Federal Republic economy continues to cool down this will prove increasingly difficult for our eastern neighbour. The structure of the trade between the two States does not correspond by any means to the level that should be expected between two highly industrialised nations.

The main concern is to keep trade free from the daily political ups and downs. Leipzig Fair will provide a good opportunity for the German Democratic Republic to prove that it wants reasonable growth rather than stagnation.

Peter Gillies

(*Die Welt, 1 September 1971*)

Managers must make do with bronze handshakes

When income tax and social security payments are taken into consideration the immediate swing is in favour of the GDR bosses. In their country the highest tax rate is twenty per cent, whereas it is fifty-one per cent in the Federal Republic. The highest contribution to social security in the GDR is sixty Marks per month. This is enough to guarantee extremely good treatment in the case of illness.

Some leading managers receive in addition an old-age pension at a relatively favourable rate from the State. This so-called intelligence pension is worked out on the basis of the salary at retirement. This in addition to the normal pension often amounts to more than three-quarters of income at retirement.

It is extremely difficult as well to compare the standard of living of the bosses in the two Germanies. Neither the official parity for the exchange of Ostmarks and Westmarks (1:1) nor the unofficial rate at West German banks (DM 1:3.5 Marks) is much help. The price structures in the two States are quite different and so currency parities, official or otherwise, are of little value.

The different tendencies, can, however, be shown by the comparison of various individual items. It is well known that basic needs can be satisfied relatively cheaply in the GDR. This applies to rents, electricity bills, transport, postage, basic foods, inland travel and most of the service industries.

Thanks to lower taxes and other payments the GDR bosses do, in fact, have a higher proportion of their income remaining for other needs. It must also be remembered that many GDR bosses also have working wives.

But despite this there remains little over from their earnings for real luxuries and at the prices charged in the GDR and little spare for accumulation of capital. But in comparison with other workers in the GDR managerial classes have a much higher standard of living. (*Frank Grätz*)

(*Die Zeit, 3 September 1971*)

■ TRADE

Video vistas dominate the 1971 Berlin radio show

This year's Berlin radio show, which began on 27 August, is more than a mere consumer gala. Now that the entertainment industry no longer exhibits at Hanover the Berlin show can truthfully be called a radio and TV trade fair. Buyers from all over the country flocked to Berlin to place orders for the new season. For the first time too the range of goods on exhibit is international. At long last manufacturers have overcome their fear of foreign competition and agreed to allow foreign and overseas firms to join in the fray. So this year's radio show can rightly claim to be something new, and as a fully-fledged international trade fair it will be an important touchstone of Berlin's pulling-power as a venue for events of this kind. For the first time since the war the exhibition grounds at the foot of West Berlin's radio tower are witnessing full-scale trade talks of a major industry. Neither previous radio shows nor the annual industrial exhibitions nor, for that matter, a number of smaller trade fairs held regularly since the Second World War have been as important as the 1971 Berlin radio show.

Developments in the audio-visual field can be compared with a three-stage rocket. The first stage, electronic video recording, was detonated some time ago. The second, video cassette recorders in colour, is at the countdown stage. There is still some time to go before the third stage, the video record in colour, is due to be activated.

To this extent the world premieres of audio-visual systems for educational and domestic use as celebrated at a number of stands at the Berlin radio show would seem to have been a little premature. They are more likely to be a practical proposition in the second half of the seventies.

"The audiovisual future," says Günther Hücking, director of the radio and TV section of the Electrical Engineering Manufacturers Association and the host at Berlin, "will be spectacular. The premieres hold forth the promise of a large market. But the performances are not yet in the repertory."

The future was heralded by super-8 film. Technically speaking the progress from a super-8 projector to electronic film reproduction on the TV screen is not a great step.

Ullstein and a number of smaller firms are already involved in production. Ullstein alone already have some 45,000 cassettes in stock. Their proud claim is that "Everyone is talking about cassettes. We have them."

The film in stock is either bought or specially produced and aimed at today's limited but closely defined market of doctors, travel agents and education authorities.

Being in at the start holds forth both prospects and risks for hard and software. The danger is that audio-visual systems developed in laboratories all over the world will strip one another and that neither recording nor reproduction equipment will come up to scratch with the exception of the technical perfection already achieved by super-8.

The luck of the draw is that the considerable sums of money being ploughed into research and development by the various manufacturers will make their mark on an emerging market and spell success for one system or the other. This is why this year's Berlin radio show features video cassette systems that will one day dominate the market by providing material on record.

Reproduction equipment costs between

2,000 and 3,000 Marks and unplayed cassettes roughly 140 Marks. At this sort of price audio-visual equipment cannot be expected to sweep all before it but then none of the devices on exhibit will be on the market before next year or the year after.

Yet audio-visual equipment is unquestionably the shape of things to come. Interest has long since been shown by educational authorities and industrial concerns. They are no longer on their own.

A number of private individuals asked for a demonstration of the various systems at the stands of Philips, Nordmende, Loewe-Opta, AEG-Telefunken and others. "I'll buy one of them when they are available" was the invariable reaction of the man in the street.

The squat video recorder is easy enough to operate. No TV adaptors are needed. Television programmes can be recorded and played back. Ready-made cassettes can be played back on the TV screen. The industry reckons with a potential market of half a million.

Colour video records, even though they will be some time in coming, will also be a money-spinner. They indeed will be the genuine mass-consumption article.

At between 600 Marks for black and white and 1,200 for colour the video record-player will be an expensive proposition but the records, in tough PVC, will be relatively inexpensive.

Recording will be inexpensive too, not differing too much from sound-recording. The expense will be copyright, stars' fees and production rights for, say, football games. They will be the main cost factor.

The video records will be flexible and in due time supplied as supplements to newspapers, magazines and educational courses. In runs of this kind they will cost next to nothing.

In time for the Olympics, a magic



One of the innovations that stole the show at this year's Berlin radio and TV trade fair was the AEG-Telefunken colour video record developed jointly with Teldes. It was the first public showing of a mass-consumption article of the none too distant future. The four Berlin inventors of the latest video system, Dr Gerhard Dickopp, Horst Radlich, Joschi Klemp and Eduard Schüller, are here seen admiring their pride.

(Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

AEG-Telefunken make great play with their video-recording equipment at the radio show and there are plenty of visitors to stand and stare at video cassette recorders and super-8 films.

To all intents and purposes, though, this is mere sensationalism, like the Siemens lasers that paint bright colours on the ceiling to musical accompaniment and are gazed at by hundreds of people as though they were the eighth wonder of the world.

The only genuine intention, and a not unimportant one at that, can have been to make potential customers' mouths water.

This year's Berlin radio show is a foretaste of the future. The direct-dial car telephones on exhibit, for instance, will not be available until 1978. The post office is proud of this latest achievement but has only just started to develop network facilities.

Transistorised cassette recorders and hi-fi have made their breakthrough on the market, which is more than can be said for quadraphony — there are too few programmes to make the prospects of quadraphony all that bright.

Japanese competition is particularly apparent in transistorisation and miniaturisation. The cut-price market for small TV sets has been virtually abandoned to Japanese manufacturers. Home producers cannot compete.

Domestic manufacturers are marketing technically more refined portables sold in larger sizes that promise to sell reasonably well.

Surprisingly enough Sony, the Japanese "forerunner of the audio-visual future" are not exhibiting video cassette recorders at Berlin. They have any number of waterproof and shockproof transistorised devices on display but have been pipped at the post as far as video is concerned.

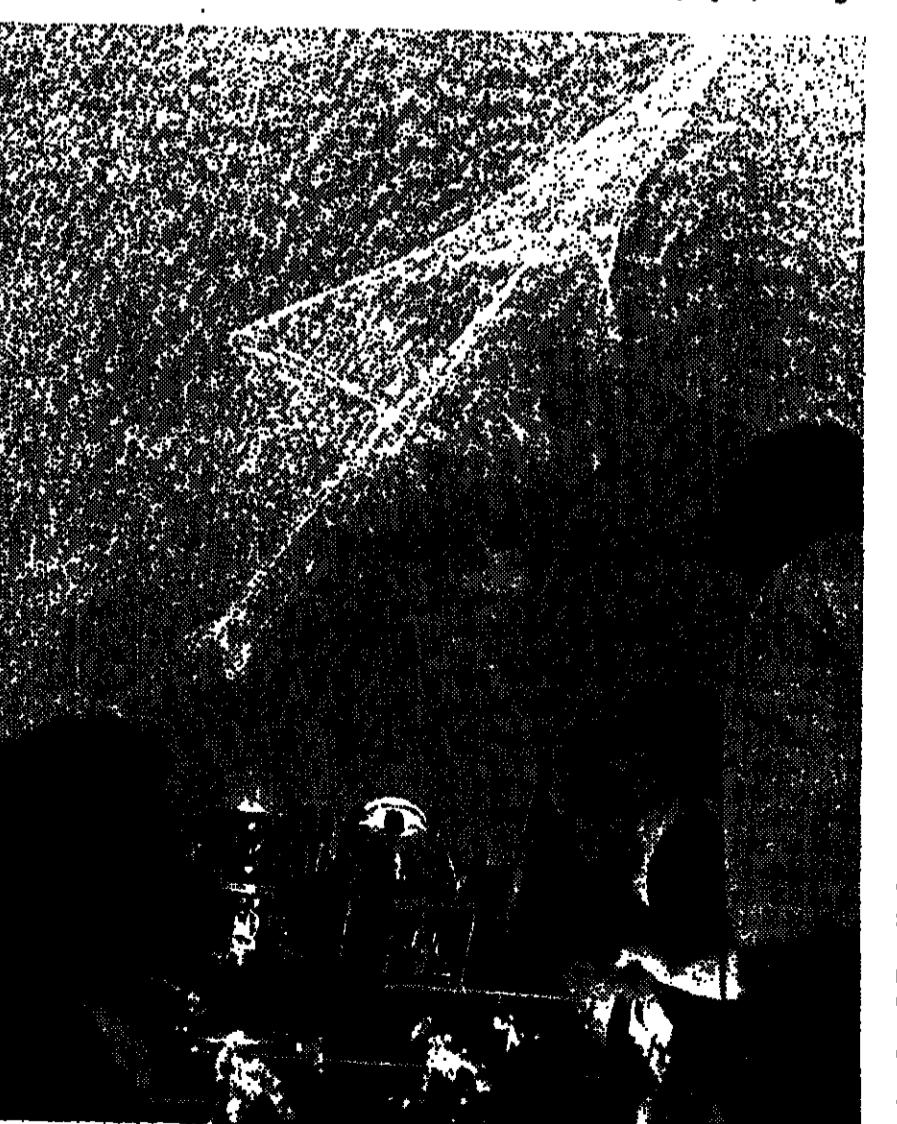
Starting this September Sony will probably commence manufacturing video recorders under licence from Philips.

As regards the show business side the broadcasting authorities continue to dominate the radio show with my number of live studios large and small. But they are gradually losing interest in the Barnum & Bailey.

Director-General Schröder of Norddeutscher Rundfunk and Channel 1 of the national TV network comments that show business ought in future to be left to the manufacturers of cassettes. "We ought to limit ourselves to what can be transmitted live from the exhibition."

Fritz Hüffel

(Die Welt, 30 August 1971)



Siemens unveiled at the Berlin radio show a stage laser projecting colour patterns in music. These fascinating light effects are expected to lead to new developments in film and TV. The stage laser was premiered at last year's opera festival in Munich's Nationaltheater. Musical modulation is the latest development of this new device in stagecraft.

(Photo: Siemens)

■ TRANSPORT

Felix Wankel of rotary-engine fame unveils his ocean-going motor car

Holidaymakers looked on astonished as a remote-controlled miniature boat circled round Lake Constance. Zisch 6B negotiated calm waters on glider fins similar to those of a hydrofoil and ploughed through heavier water like a submarine. Despite high speed it did not appear to be much put out by swell or current.

Zisch B is not a toy but a miniature version of what the inventor visualises as a private car of the ocean waves, an all-purpose vehicle unsinkable in the harshest of weather.

The inventor is Dr Felix Wankel, the all-but engineer whose rotary engine has made engineering history.

Wankel hopes his boat will be an equally path-making development. The scale models have already successfully been put through their paces and two full-size prototypes at present under construction in Switzerland will be ready to undergo trials next spring.

Wankel's boat is the result of development work dating back to a contract he undertook for the Reich Aviation Ministry several years before the War.

Not until 1962 was Felix Wankel able to resume work on the project at the technical research and development centre at Lindau on Lake Constance that he now heads.

The Zisch first reminds one of Flipper, the TV dolphin, and is hard to attribute to my particular sector of conventional shipbuilding. In conventional shipbuilding only specific types of vessel have managed to fulfil specific requirements.

Ocean-going vessels are expected to be

large and weighty. Smaller, faster ships

have generally been designed for coastal

and inland traffic. Wankel proposes to combine the two.

In order to provide private transport on

the high seas he needs a design that bears comparison with the motor-car in terms

of size, price, speed and interior. Zisch is Wankel's solution: small, ocean-going, swift and inexpensive.

The present scale model conveys some idea of what he has in mind. Zisch 6B is powered by a normal screw and at rest or low speeds has its keel submerged. As soon as it develops speed the keel surfaces and the vessel skims the surface on its fins.

At speedboat tempo it can travel hundreds or thousands of kilometres in this fashion. Zisch cannot surmount large waves so the cabin is covered and it ploughs through the breakers in submarine fashion.

The entire design is modelled on the dolphin. "Like Man, the dolphin is a mammal and needs fresh air to breathe. Yet even in heavy seas it gets the air it needs because its body is so streamlined that it can plough straight on whether above water, partially or totally submerged."

Felix Wankel's mechanical dolphin is claimed to have similar properties. The full-sized version will accommodate four to six passengers.

Wankel is not the man to encourage a hue and cry about his development work and his seagoing passenger vehicle has so far largely escaped public notice. Having once been blessed by success he is now in a position to carry on with his latest "utopian" project under his own steam.

He is financing the project largely out of his own pocket.

He doubtless enjoys playing the part of a crotchety inventor. He feels himself to be a creative person and the element of play to be an integral part of his scientific work.

Wankel has also been keen on boats and engines since childhood. He and his associates are out to enjoy themselves in the process of research and development.

He is not interested in systematic development, in improving details as he terms it. Wankel prefers to work on

wholly new ideas and creative talent is absolutely essential.

Computers and many scientists have lost this facility. "You can know too much," Felix Wankel comments.

The "crotchety" inventor of Lake Constance is self-confident and independent enough to uphold the freedom of his utopian developments. He is sad that there are so few inventors of his calibre left.

Explorers and inventors are no longer heroic figures. The concepts of research and invention have been continually debased over the years, Wankel feels.

"One of these days things will have come to such a pass that an auto mechanic on the lookout for an ignition fault will consider himself to be a researcher," he drily notes.

Delef Boldt

(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, 5 September 1971)

Plain bad driving causes many car crashes

motorists who proved to be either bad drivers or unaware of important provisions of the highway code were also booked as previous offenders.

Of the 58 motorists who combined both poor eyesight with other physical or mental shortcomings 73 per cent were on record in Flensburg as having previous offences to be taken into consideration when they next come before the courts.

Only three per cent of the 658 motorists who were found to have no notable shortcomings had endorsements registered in Flensburg.

Last year 1,776,049 people in this country applied for a driving licence. 101,235, or 5.7 per cent of them, failed the sight test. In 888 cases the optician's report was so bad that it was felt they would never be able to pass the driving test.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 August 1971)

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DIE WELT's editorial content has won for it acclaim all over the world as an authoritative voice of West Germany. Its circulation and readership indicate the paper's influence. The only West German newspaper mentioned in a recent series of articles on sixteen leading world newspapers in The Times, London, was DIE WELT. In 1967 DIE WELT was awarded a medal of honour for outstanding journalistic achievement by the Faculty of Journalism, at the University of Columbia (Mo.).

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HOLIDAYS

Allgäu mountains have more to offer than romantic castles and scenery

Ask any American planning a tour of Europe what he is most looking forward to and he is almost bound to say Neuschwanstein Castle, Bavaria. Foreign visitors generally think in terms of a romantic, medieval past in the East of the Allgäu region of Southern Germany where the Romantische Strasse tourist route ends.

What other explanation is there for the unquestionable fact that Neuschwanstein, King Ludwig II of Bavaria's nineteenth-century vision of a new Wartburg (the medieval castle in the Harz mountains where troubadours and knights of chivalry really met), is visited by 500,000 tourists a year?

Smile one may at the pseudo-Romanticism of King Ludwig, the patron and admirer of Richard Wagner, but there can be no denying that his costly castles are now money-spinners.

You may not be too keen on Wagner and the mystique of the Holy Grail but you still should not miss the castle concerts held from 14 to 19 September in the Wartburg Hall at Neuschwanstein.

The music played is well worth listening to. There are the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, the Munich Nonett and the Lasalle Quartet and an assortment of well-known soloists.

The Allgäu may owe much of its tourist reputation to the regal dreamer who invested inordinate sums of money in the two castles of Hohenschwangau and Neuschwanstein but even without them it is an attractive part of the world.

The area between Trauchgau to the East and Nesselwang and Wertach in the West is one of the best-known and most popular holiday areas in the South. Not for nothing are the approaches to the Alps called a natural work of art.

"All we lack is the sea," one spa publicity manager comments, adding that "of course the many lakes between rolling hills with the gigantic mountain range between Zugspitze and Nebelhorn in the distance do make the area attractive, though."

Right, he is and there is no shortage of water in the Allgäu. Forgensee is five miles long and visitors can indulge in all kinds of water sport until well on into the autumn, and when it is too cold outdoors there are any number of indoor baths to choose from.

Water-lovers who would like to do something for their health could do worse than visit Forgensee for a Kneipp course or, for that matter, go in for the full spa treatment at Hopfen and its newly-built spa centre nearby.

East Allgäu has some 190 hotels and 98 pensions at the ready to welcome visitors. And there are any number of private guesthouses. Holidays on the farms are also growing in popularity.

More than 1,700,000 bednights last year prove that holidays in the East Allgäu have gained a reputation for themselves. "We have so much to offer," one burgomaster says, "that we can satisfy the holiday needs of visitors of all ages and interests."

The Allgäu, in common with other areas, is benefiting from the trend to take two holidays in the course of the year and an increasing number of visitors are coming for short spells in the autumn to see for themselves whether this is where they would like to spend their winter holidays.

It is a moot question whether the

autumn or the winter is better in the Allgäu. Prospective holidaymakers who would like to see for themselves should write for brochures to *Arbeitsgemeinschaft zur Förderung des Fremdenverkehrs Ostallgäu* at Landratsamt Füssen.

Visitors travelling by car from the East will see for themselves the beauty of the Allgäu foothills as they drive along the Deutsche Alpenstrasse route. In the distance they will see the town of Füssen, surrounded by glorious mountain scenery itself but towering over the river Lech.

Bad Faulenbach, a mineral and mud spa on the way, is reputed to be good for rheumatism and gynaecological troubles. Here too advocates of Father Kneipp and his water-cure treatment will find all they need. What is more, you can take the Tegelbergbahn and survey the entire region from a height of 1,720 metres (5,650 feet).

Then there is Pfronten, a village neatly divided into thirteen sections. The Breitenberg mountain railway takes the holidaymaker to an elevation of 1,500 metres (4,900 feet). A chair lift then goes up to a height of 1,720 metres.

Climbers can negotiate the 1,987-metre (6,520-ft) Aggenstein. From the summit they can see Tannheimer Tal in Austria and make out the deep turquoise of Vilsalpsee lake.

Or they can climb unaided (and without much difficulty) to the top of Falkenstein (1,268 metres or 4,165 feet) and take a look at the highest ruined

People who like mountain air can

choose holiday hotels at altitudes of 1,150 metres (3,780 feet). Down in Hindelang there are further spas, Kneipp centres, a Kurpark and heated indoor baths.

In 1920 Ursinus launched the first Rhön competition and it was an immediate success. Germany was prohibited by the terms of the Versailles Treaty from developing motor aeroplanes but not from developing the art of gliding. The men who drafted the Treaty of Versailles had never heard of gliders.

Gliding has gone from strength in this country ever since. Some 23,000 people are affiliated to the gliding section of the Federal Republic Aero Club and pay club subscriptions of between six and twenty

choose holiday hotels at altitudes of 1,150 metres (3,780 feet). Down in Hindelang there are further spas, Kneipp centres, a Kurpark and heated indoor baths.

Back on the Alpenstrasse the road heads southwards and up the Illertal valley towards Obersdorf. Unless, of course, you would like to stay a while in Sonthofen, which is well worth it with its sports centre and variety of spa treatments.

Obersdorf, which is not for nothing bednight millionaire, needs little further recommendation. It has peace and quiet to offer for older people and plenty of entertainment for youngsters.

Anyone can take the Nebelhornbahn suspension railway up to a height of 2,215 metres (7,255 feet) and the Söllereck chair lift crosses over to Kleinwalsertal (1,400 metres or 4,600 feet).

From here the Kanzelwandbahn at Riezlern and the Walmingerhornbahn in Mittelberg wind their way up to altitudes of 2,000 metres (6,500 feet) and upwards.

Heuberg chair lift in Hirschegg and Zafena chair lift in Mittelberg are further mountain railways available to all visitors up to elevations of 1,400 metres (4,600 feet).

The main inroads into airspace are made, however, by bans imposed in the vicinity of civil airports and military airfields. More and more country is being declared off bounds for glider pilots.

The hardest part of gliding is preparing for take-off and heading back to home base once the glider has landed, though.

The pioneering days are over and it is only when veterans get together that they reminisce about the days when it took a couple of dozen men to get the club glider airborne.

In those days paper, wood and wire was the stuff dreams are made of and many a hopeful glider pilot had to wait for days before take-off because there was no wind when his turn came round.

Yet even now it takes four or five men

to get the glider airborne at most clubs. One man must operate the winch, one must man the intercom, one must be at the aircraft and at least another must keep the wings horizontal.

At least the same number are needed when the glider is taken into tow and "if only for courtesy's sake you have to be there either to prepare the glider or to dismantle it," an enthusiastic glider man adds rather less than enthusiastically.

"Young people in particular are no longer so keen on the preliminaries," Walther Cartaus, glider secretary of the Federal Republic Aero Club in Frankfurt,

says. This is why he foresees a great future

for a craft that has existed for many a long year but has only become a really viable proposition this year — the power-assisted glider.

Gliding veterans will have no truck with the power-assisted glider. "It tolls the death knell of the adventure of the weather and the clouds, the element of risk that makes gliding so thrilling," one glider pilot who takes his annual holidays regularly in the Rhön region noted.

He may be right but there can be no denying that power assistance makes gliding simpler and more rational.

In good weather the pilot of a power-assisted glider can take off under his own steam without further assistance. He can fly and stay aloft in conditions that are too poor for conventional gliders.

Because take-off procedure is far less

tiresome gliding with power assistance is a feasible proposition after work during the week.

What is more, the charge per hour of power-assisted flight (thirty Marks or so) makes it possible for the glider to pay for itself faster.

The international aviation federation has now gone so far as to make power-assisted flight respectable by introducing a power-assisted category alongside the standard and open categories. Power-assisted gliding can now lay official claim to be a sporting pursuit.

SPORT

Power-assisted gliders gain ascendancy in the air

The Travels of Count Zambeccari was a much-read children's book in the 1920s. In it a stork explains to a wren he is taken on as a hitch-hiker, so to speak, the secret of gliding without moving your wings.

This story so intrigued schoolboy Otto Lilienthal and his brother that they decided to keep an eye on storks and how they flew.

Otto von Lilienthal's lifelong ambition was to construct a powered aeroplane. When he crashed and died in the Rhön hills, not far from Berlin, in 1896 he had not yet achieved this ambition but he had effected a glider that lacked nothing but a few minor improvements to the seating.

Lilienthal's ideas were overtaken by the publicity given to motor-powered aviation and virtually consigned to oblivion until Frankfurt civil engineer Oskar Ursinus noticed buzzards gliding in the Rhön region, an isolated plateau in Franconia. Without appearing to move their wings at all the buzzards climbed to ever greater heights.

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